Establishment of high powered TV transmitters in border areas

tl3184. SHRI JAI PARKASH AGGARWAL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether any effective steps have been taken by the Central Government to establish high power TV transmitters in border areas to check anti-India propaganda on Pak TV;

(b) if so, the details thereof as on date;

(c) whether the Central Government proposes to install high power TV transmitters in the entire bordering areas; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) and (b) Doordarshan has been assigning priority to provision of TV coverage in the border areas in various expansion plans formulated from time to time. At present, 47 High Power TV Transmitters (HPT) are functioning in border areas of the country (including 24 transmitters in the areas bordering with Pakistan).

(c) and (d) For further expansion of TV coverage in the border areas, schemes for upgradation of interim HPTs at Amritsar, Kokrajhar and Barmer to permanent set ups have been approved.

Multi Channel TV coverage has been provided in the entire country, including border areas, through Doordarshan's free to air Direct-to-Home (DTH) service, 'DD Direct Plus'. It is possible to receive DTH signals anywhere in the country (except Andaman and Nicobar Islands) with the help of small sized dish receive units.

New policy on magazine advertising

3185. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the Indian Magazine Congress 2007 organized in October, 2007 and variegated discussions held therein;

(b) if so,-whether any new policy is being formulated with regard to magazine advertising; and

(c) will it be ensured that interests of daily newspapers, especially those printed in regional languages, but having wider circulation, get their due share relating to Government and public sector advertisement released through DAVP or other Government organisations themselves?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) At the Indian Magazine Congress, 2007, held in October, 2007, issues relating to the development of magazines sector were discussed.

(b) and (c) There is adequate provision in the Directorate of Advertising and Visual Publicity (DAVP) Advertisement Policy to ensure a balance in distribution of Government advertisements between various categories of newspapers including those printed in regional

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

languages, keeping in view the publicity requirements, target readership, area, budgetary provisions and preferences indicated by the client Ministries/Departments.

Films and TV shows banned for obscenity

†3186. SHRI LAXMIN ARAYAN SHARMA: Will the Minisier of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the definition of obscenity as determined by the Ministry;

(b) the names of films and TV shows banned so far in pursuance of this definition; and

(c) the system to be developed to control obscene shows by different Government and private media in the country?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) Obscenity is not defined under the Cinematograph Act, 1952 and the Rules framed thereunder. It is also not defined under the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995. However, all broadcasters are required to adhere to the Programme and Advertising Codes prescribed under the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 and rules framed thereunder.

(b) No film or TV show as such has been banned. The telecast of the F.TV. Com India channel was prohibited for a specific period for showing an obscene programme 'Mid Night Hot'.

(c) The Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC) certifies films in accordance with the provisions under the Cinematograph Act, 1952 and the guidelines framed thereunder. The guidelines *inter alia* stipulate the following:

— Human sensibilities are not offended by vulgarity, obscenity, or depravityes;
— Words with dual meaning as obviously cater to baser instincts are not allowed;
— Scenes degrading or denigrating women in any manner are not presented.

Scenes showing sexual perversions shall be avoided and if such matters are germane to the theme, they shall be reduced to the minimum and no details are shown.

Regarding television, the Ministry has constituted an Inter Ministerial Committee (IMC) to look into the specific complaints regarding violation of Programme and Advertising Codes prescribed under the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 and Rules framed thereunder. The Committee gives its recommendations regarding violation occurred and penalties to be imposed on TV channels for these violations.

Documentary films on River Valley Development in N. E. States

t3187. SHRI LAXMINARAYAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of documentary films proposal, showing river valley development in North-Eastern States, were received during the last five years and action taken thereon;

(b) the names of proposals accepted and rejected out of them alongwith reasons therefor;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi